

DATE: FEBRUARY 22, 2016

TO: GEORGE T. CZERNIAK - DIRECTOR  
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604-3590

FROM: JOEL MAYORAL #B-07829  
LAWRENCE CORRECTIONAL CENTER  
10930 LAWRENCE ROAD  
SUMNER, ILLINOIS 62466



RE: HEALTH HAZZARDS FROM EXPOSURE TO THE BACTERIA-CONTAMINATED  
DUST/LINT PARTICLES EMITTED FROM CLOTHES-DRYERS AND  
DISBURSED INTO THE INDOOR ENVIRONMENT VIA THE VENTILLATION  
SYSTEM.

foia request

Dear Mr Czerniak,

May this letyter find you well in the company of all of your colleagues as spingtime approaches.

I was refered to your office by the National Health INstitute in Washignton D.C. I am writing to request literature that explains an environmental phenomenon in which the dust/lint particles emitted from a clothes-dryer and disburded into the indoor atmosphere are causing several health hazzards; i.e., ear, nose and throat infections, lung or respiratory problems - including ASTHMA; CANCER; CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM DISORDERS; MEMORY LOSS; BIZZYNESS; HEADACHES. This phenomenon is also causing a severe skin disorder in which the lint particles that are emitted from the clothes-dryers with a static charge are disburded into the living unit's atmosphere via the ventillation system - where they pick up bacteria - and when they come into contact with an individuals exposed skin, it causes a pimple-like irritation that develops into a sore that is paifully irritating and itching and takes a very long time to heal. Thereafter leaving a dark mark or, often-times, a white discolor-ated scar.

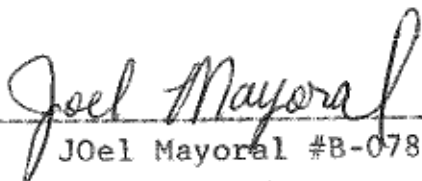
My research through the limited resources I have access to indeed has shown that this dust/lint particles infact can cause CANCER

and cite your agency as a reference for that position. If you would, please provide me with that literature. Additionally, if you can, please provide me with any literature that explains the rare skin disease attributed to static-charged bacteria contaminated dust/lint particles emitted from clothes dryers and disburst into the indoor atmosphere via the ventillation system.

Lastly, I would ask you to please point me in the right direction to locate this literature in the event that you do not have it. Where can I potentially find this type of literature ? Would an agency regulating Laudromat Business have these types of literature ? Would some type of Air-Quality professional service have this type of literature ? Any and all help you can provide towards finding this literarture would be very much appreciated. My efforts to inform the officials here about this problem has not been very effective. That is why I need the literature - so that I can copnvince them to take measures to correct the pervgassive problem.

Without more, thank you for your time and attention in this matter. I await to hear from your office anxiously. Be Well.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joel Mayoral". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

JOel Mayoral #B-07829

c.c.

personal file w/attachment

Kathleen Zellner - Attorney w/attachment



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## What Are the Dangers of Inhaling Lint From Dryers?

By EmilyTrudeau, eHow Contributor

updated: August 6, 2010



([http://i.ehow.com/images/a06/g4/g0/dangers-inhaling-lint-dryers\\_-1\\_1-800X800.jpg](http://i.ehow.com/images/a06/g4/g0/dangers-inhaling-lint-dryers_-1_1-800X800.jpg))

Hanging clothes outside to dry may prevent many dangers from dryer lint inhalation.

The lint that accumulates after drying clothing in the dryer can be quite toxic and dangerous. The most well-known danger of this substance is its flammability, creating the potential for fires if it is not properly cleaned out often. It also can contain quite a few chemicals that can be toxic in several different ways if inhaled. These chemicals come from fabric softeners, the clothing themselves, and other environmental factors that get into the clothes and dryer.

### Respiratory

A common concern is respiratory effects brought on by dryer lint inhalation. The physical lint, even without the potential of chemicals, is a foreign substance that should not get into your lungs. If it does, it could cause coughing and difficulty breathing. Some of the chemicals that specifically target the respiratory system come from fabric softeners. Alpha-terpineol has been found to cause irritation to mucous membranes and pneumonia-type diseases that can result in severe inflammation of the lungs if inhaled. Bensyl alcohol causes upper-respiratory disturbances that can cause respiratory failure.

### Cancer

Several of the same substances, as well as a handful of others, have been studied and shown to create carcinogenic effects. Some chemicals are even located on the Environmental Protection Agency's "Hazardous Waste List." An example of one of these chemicals is chloroform, which should not be heated up, and can cause tumors in the liver and kidneys. Another carcinogenic chemical found in dryer lint is benzyl acetate, which may be the cause of pancreatic cancers.

### CNS Disorders

Disorders of the central nervous system (CNS) can be extremely problematic. These disorders can be anything from a headache to severe convulsions. Several of the chemicals found in dryer lint that can cause CNS disorders come from flame retardants used in fabric. Some examples are polybrominated diphenyl ethers, camphor, and ethanol. These can also be very dangerous in young children or pregnant women, as they can lead to birth defects involving motor skills and behavior according to studies done on mice and rats.

### References

- EI Resource: Chemicals Found in Dryer Exhaust and Their Toxicology
- Environmental Protection Agency: Chloroform
- Environmental Working Group: PBDE Health Effects

### Photo Credit

windows with washed clothes image by Maksym Gorpenyuk from Fotolia.com

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